

In The Claims:

54. (Once Amended) A stent comprising:

an elongated structure having an inner passage, said structure comprising:

an inner core having an outer surface, said core comprising a first biodegradable polymer composition comprising a blend of a first biodegradable polymer [composition] and a second biodegradable polymer, wherein said first biodegradable polymer comprises a lactide/glycolide copolymer having at least about 80 mole percent of polymerized glycolide, and said second biodegradable polymer comprises a lactide-rich copolymer comprising at least about 50 mole percent of polymerized lactide, wherein the blend comprises at least about 50 weight percent of the first biodegradable polymer and at least about 5 weight percent of the second biodegradable polymer, said polymer composition having a first degradation rate; and,

an outer structure positioned over said outer surface, said outer structure comprising a second biodegradable polymer composition formed from monomers selected from the group consisting of lactide, glycolide, para-dioxanone, trimethylene carbonate, caprolactone, and combinations thereof, said second biodegradable polymer composition having a second degradation rate,

wherein the first degradation rate is slower than the second degradation rate.

55. (Once Amended) A stent, comprising:

a tubular structure having a longitudinal passage, said structure comprising:

an inner core having an exterior surface, the inner core [comprising a] comprising a blend of a first biodegradable polymer component and a second biodegradable polymer component, said first polymer component comprising a first biodegradable polymer, wherein

said first biodegradable polymer comprises a lactide/glycolide copolymer having at least about 80 mole percent of polymerized glycolide, said second polymer component comprising a second biodegradable polymer, wherein said second biodegradable polymer comprises a lactide-rich copolymer comprising at least about 50 mole percent of polymerized lactide, said inner core having a first degradation rate, wherein the blend comprises at least about 50 weight percent of the first component and at least about 5 weight percent of the second component; and,

an outer section covering the exterior surface of the inner core comprising a biodegradable polymer formed from monomers selected from the group consisting of lactide, glycolide, para-dioxanone, trimethylene carbonate, caprolactone, and combinations thereof, said polymer having a second degradation rate,

wherein said second degradation rate of said outer layer is faster than said first degradation rate of the inner core.